

12/12/18

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman

The Honorable Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner

The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission

455 12 th Street, Southwest

Washington, DC, 20544

RE: MB Docket No 05-311 In the Matter of Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992

I am writing in support of the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) in the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making. I oppose the tentative conclusions the FCC reaches in the proceeding because of their impacts on all communities.

Public Access Television is critical for local communities, including rural areas such as the Northern Berkshires. Across America, these smaller local non-profit entities are the ones connecting parents/grandparents to schools, elders to their local resources and citizens to their town and city representatives. Altering the FCC rules in this fashion will cut those connections. The cable companies will benefit financially, the PEG Stations will close putting thousands out of their jobs, and the community will be left footing the bill without getting any services. Alternatives to the situation can be found, but this is not the solution needed by our communities.

By allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities if they opt for local channels, the FNPRM diminishes the ability of PEG channels to serve local communities.

I ask that it not be adopted.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joanne E. Hurlbut, Ph.D.